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FRENTE REVOLUCIONARIA DE TIMOR-LESTE INDEPENDENTE

(REVOLUTIONARY FRONT FOR AN INDEPENDENT EAST TIMOR)

FRETILIN

To:

CIRCULAR Nº 1/81

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LISBON, January 21 st, 1981

Dear friends

For you all, I would like to express our utmost and sincere wishes that in the year of 1981 our spirit of solidarity become more strenghtened through our common action in support and defence of the courageous Maubere People's Struggle.

This confidential Circular aims at providing some detailed information which should only be used internnally, concerning the Session on East Timor by the Permanent People's Tribunal (PPT) . Later on, the Comission for the Rights of Maubere People, in Lisbon, composed by FRETILIN members, CIDAC, AAPTL and Refugees will make public all the relevant informations related to this matter.

Up to now, we have been establishing contacts with several friends of EST TIMOR/FRETILIN as well as experts in East Timor case in order to have a definite list of Reports to be presented at the Session of the PPT. Besides, we have been in contact with the Secretariat of the PPT in Rome to find a methodology for the works during the Session itself. These are the main reasons for the delay in our work. Technical reasons such as the necessity to find an appropriate date so that we can have the juri members, reporters and witnesses, all together in Lisbon, necessity to raise funds for trips, accomadation, preparatory works, publications and other expenses which we estimate will be around US$50.000,00 - were also another major difficulty. However, we can say that part of the total budget is guaranteed and other problems are solved. For the time being, we are only waiting for the reply from the Secretariat of the PPT about two proposals we sent to Rome, last December. Meanwhile, several materials in english language are being printed like the text of the APPEAL, history of the PPT and Declaration of Algiers, FRETILIN documents as well as an international poster to be widely distributed in Europe, Australia, America, Africa, etc..

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These are , in short, the proposals we submitted to the Secretariat of the PPT in Rome:

1. Date for the Session on East Timor: 22nd, 23rd and 24th May/1981;
2. The second proposal relates to the methodology - procedures - to be followed by the PPT during the Session:

The jurors of the PPT will analise the FRETILIN accusation which is summarised in the APPEAL through a confrontation of three diferent thesis:

THESIS A: FRETILIN POSITION - The invasion carried out by the colonial--expansionist regime of the present indonesian regime was an act against a sovereign State - the DRET - and a sovereign People.

FRETILIN will defend this position through the presentation of several reports writen either by FRETILIN or by specialists apointed by FRETILIN, which are:

a) The cultural and historical identity of the East Timorese People.
by Abílio Araújo, Member of FRETILIN CC and Minister of the State

b) The resistence of the East Timorese People against portuguese colonialism; the founding of FRETILIN untill the proclamation of the Constitution of the DRET; the indonesian aggression; the violation of human and people's rights in East Timor by Indonesia; the cumplicity of the imperialist powers; the national and revolutionary war of resistence.
BY: MARI ALKATIRI, Minister of External Relations of the DRET

c) The juridical legitimacy of the proclamation of the DRET.
BY: MICHEL ROBERT and LOUIE JOINET (Association de Solidarité avec Timor Oriental - FRANCE)

d) The National Resistence War against indonesian aggression.
BY: DENIS FREMEY - CIET, AUSTRALIA

Besides these reports, several persons are invited by FRETILIN to act as witnesses:

i. About the administration of FRETILIN in East Timor, in the period before the invasion:
- Mr. Adelino Gomes, portuguese journalist of the Television;
- Father Leonoto do Rego, catholic priest;
- Hon. Ken Fry, member of parliament (Australia)

ii. About the proclamation of the independence:
- Jill Jollife, australian journalist who was present during the cerimonies of Independence.

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iii. About the resistence of Maubere People to the indonesian invasion under the leadership of FRETILIN, and the life in the liberated areas
- Father Leoneto do Rego, catholic priest who lived with FRETILIN guerrillas till the end of 1978

iv. About the US support to indonesian regime
- Prof. Richard Frank, USA (Timor Defence Committe, USA)

v. About australian support to the indonesian generals
- Ken McLeod, Secretary General of Transnational Cooperative, Australia

vi. About the role of Holland and the IGGI
- Prof. W.F. Werteim, Holland (Indonesia Komite, Holland)

vii. Genocide in East Timor
- James Dunn, former australian council in East Timor

viii. Violation of indonesian Constitution, causes and efects of the invasion in indonesian society
- Hadjar Jusfuik, indonesian journalist (Sociedade p/ Apoio AO EX-TAPOL, na Indonesia)

THESIS B: PORTUGUESE POSITION - East Timor is a territory under portuguese administration. The people of East Timor have the right to self-determination. (A portuguese jurist will present the official viewpoint of Portugal)

THESIS C: INDONESIAN POSITION - The people of East Timor have exercised already their right to self-determination through the integration in Indonesia. (An american jurist will present the official viewpoint of Indonesia)

The Reports on the two thesis B. and C. are necessary since we assume that neither Portugal nor Indonesia will attend the Session. Therefore, it is important that some jurists present the oficial views of those Governments to enable the jurors for a decision-making.

Besides these Reports and witnesses who will come to defend the parts involved: a) FRETILIN and the Government of the DRET
b) Portugal
c) Indonesia, US imperialism, Australia, Holland, IGGI

the TRIBUNAL can also invite other people to present their studies and reports

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as a common tribunal uses to do. Therefore, we proposed to the TRIBUNAL to ask experts in Politics, Sociology, Antropology, International Law to present also their studies and results of their research work concerning the matters in debate:

1. The cultural and historical identity of the East Timorese People
   by Prof. S. Forman, american antropologist who made research work in East Timor, currently working for FORD FOUNDATION - USA
2. A juridical and political analisis of the above mentioned THREE THESIS
   by a french expert in International Law appointed by Magistrate L.Joinet
3. East Timor in the United Nations
   by Dr. Robert van Lierop, american jurist
4. War crimes, genocide and crimes against mankind - A juridical definition.
   by Dr. Loff Barreto, portuguese jurist
5. The cumplicity of Western Powers in the aggression of East Timor by Indonesia
   by Prof. Noam Chomsky

These are at the moment our informations about the works concerning the Tribunal on East Timor.

Sincerely yours,

Abílio Araújo
Member of FRETILIN Central Committe
and
Minister of State - DRET